

COUNTY LOCAL LAWS

George's County Code of Ordinances and Resolutions, 1967 Edition, be and the same is hereby amended by adding a new Chapter 5A thereto to read as follows:

CHAPTER 5A

CODE OF ETHICS

5A-1 STATEMENT OF POLICY.

AS MANDATED BY THE CHARTER, THE COUNTY COUNCIL SHALL PRESCRIBE A CODE OF ETHICS FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY. TO FULFILL THIS MANDATE, THE FOLLOWING POLICY IS SET FORTH BY THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL. THIS CODE IS TO INSURE THAT THE HONESTY AND INTEGRITY OF THE PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY REMAIN ABOVE REPROACH. BY INSURING THIS, IT IS CERTAIN THAT THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT WILL ACQUIRE A REPUTATION WHICH WILL INSPIRE PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN OUR GOVERNMENT AND INSURE THE PUBLIC TRUST WILL NOT BE VIOLATED. THIS CODE IS DESIGNED, ALSO, TO MAINTAIN THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT AS WELL AS TO PROTECT THE FREEDOMS AND RIGHTS OF ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY THIS CODE.

5A-2 DEFINITIONS.

WHEN USED IN THIS SECTION AND UNLESS OTHERWISE EXPRESSLY STATED OR UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

A. THE WORDS "ACT", "ORDINANCE", "PUBLIC LOCAL LAW", AND "LEGISLATIVE ACT", WHEN USED IN CONNECTION WITH ANY ACTION BY THE COUNCIL, SHALL BE SYNONYMOUS, AND SHALL MEAN ANY BILL ENACTED IN THE MANNER AND FORM PROVIDED IN THE CHARTER FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY (HEREIN AFTER REFERRED TO AS THE CHARTER).

B. THE WORDS "STATE LAWS" SHALL MEAN ALL LAWS OR PORTIONS OF LAWS ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND WHICH MAY NOT BE REPEALED BY THE COUNCIL AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE CHARTER.

C. THE WORDS "SHALL" SHALL BE CONSTRUED AS MANDATORY AND THE WORD "MAY" SHALL BE CONSTRUED AS PERMISSIVE.